

Message Text

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D - MR. OXMAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS STATE 250465

FOR CSCE DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CSCE

SUBJECT: CSCE: DISSENSION

REF: STATE 249550

FOR TOM RESTON

FOLLOWING A REVIEW OF THE GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN REFTL,
WE HAVE REWORKED SOME OF THE LANGUAGE CONTAINED IN
ANSWERS PREPARED FOR USE IN RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS DIRECT-
ED TO THE MICHAEL DOBB'S STORY OF OCTOBER 17 IN THE
WASHINGTON POST. THE REVISED VERSION FOLLOWS:

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Q: WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THE MICHAEL DOBBS REPORT IN THE
WASHINGTON POST THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES ARE
DIVIDED ON THE BEST WAY TO PURSUE THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE
AT BELGRADE?

A: THERE IS A CONTINUOUS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN THE

U.S. AND OUR ALLIES ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE CONFERENCE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD SERVE A USEFUL PURPOSE TO DEVELOP A RIGID GAME PLAN. WE ARE IN AGREEMENT ON THE NECESSITY FOR FULL AND FRANK REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION. THERE IS A BROAD CONSENSUS ON HOW TO APPROACH THE ISSUES,

INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

OUR POSITIONS AT BELGRADE TAKE THE VIEWS OF OUR ALLIES FULLY INTO ACCOUNT BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT ALLIED UNITY IS, AND HISTORICALLY HAS BEEN, AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN INSURING THE SUCCESS OF WESTERN CSCE OBJECTIVES.

Q: ARE THE REPORTS IN THE SAME ARTICLE OF DIVISIONS WITH THE U.S. DELEGATION ACCURATE?

A: AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG IS DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB, AND HAS THE SECRETARY'S FULL CONFIDENCE. HE HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT OUR CONCERNS OVER HUMAN RIGHTS CAN BE DISCUSSED IN THE CSCE FORUM IN A REALISTIC AND CANDID FASHION WITHOUT LEADING TO CONFRONTATION.

THE PRESENCE OF AN AMERICAN OF HIS STATURE AT THE HEAD OF OUR DELEGATION IN BELGRADE IS A MEASURE OF THE IMPORTANCE WE PLACE IN THE SUCCESS OF THE MEETING.

OUR DELEGATION IS COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVERAL UNCLASSIFIED

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WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE CSCE COMMISSION, AND A NUMBER OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC MEMBERS.

SOME DIFFERENCES OF VIEW IN DISCUSSING STRATEGY OR TACTICS ARE TO BE EXPECTED. THE PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING OUR DELEGATIONS' ACTIONS, HOWEVER, ARE NOT IN DISPUTE. THEY WERE OUTLINED BY THE SECRETARY ON JUNE 6, 1977 IN HIS TESTIMONY TO THE CSCE COMMISSION AND THEY HAVE REMAINED UNCHANGED THROUGH ALL STAGES OF PLANNING.

MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE CSCE COMMISSION IN PARTICULAR HAVE PLAYED A MAJOR AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN OUR PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE, AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT REMAINS EXTENSIVE AND CLOSE.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE COURSE OF THE MEETING THUS FAR?

A: WE ARE PLEASED WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH THE CSCE MEETING HAS COMMENCED.

THERE IS GOOD REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL
BE ABLE TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
ALL PARTS OF THE FINAL ACT IN A BUSINESSLIKE, NON-POLEMICAL
MANNER.

SUCH A REVIEW SHOULD ENCOURAGE IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION

OF THE ACT'S PROVISIONS IN THE FUTURE BY ALL SIGNATORY
COUNTRIES. VANCE

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